

Rt. 8, Frederick, Md. 21701
6/9/70

Mr. Steve Blostin
103-00 Shore Front Parkway
Rockaway Park, N.Y. 11694

Dear Mr. Blostin,

It is impossible to make intelligent response to your form letter, forwarded to me from our former address. You ask for "any information" I can send you, without specifics, because you are so busy. How about my time? I am less busy when I have written eight finished books on this subject and have a number of others in various stages of development, continue my researches and other activities?

I am anxious to help responsible writing, but there is very little of it. Everybody wants to be an instant expert and few are willing to invest the great time required, even if this time is only profiting from the work already done. Experience tells me the large amount of time I have spent this way in the past has ranged from wasted to worse, distortion being one of the minor, predictable expectations. Those on whom I have spent time range from well-meaning, sincere people who will not do the kind of work required to achieve minimal understanding and see conspiracies in each blade of grass to the vicious, like Schiller, to whom I spoke of others only off the record, for their understanding, on their word they were doing nothing but a special thing for colleges, only to have even the tapes edited beyond recognition, as with having me talking about suing my good friend Sylvia Meagher, whose book was not yet published and, at the time of the interview, had no prospects of publication and hadn't been finished.

The field is also permeated by plagiarism. As you will understand if you do the work required by what you outline, I do not want to help this, either.

So, the best I will offer you is opinions when you seek them, and on specific things that I regard as relevant, either to your understanding or to significant aspects of the material. I strongly encourage you to regard the published literature with the most jaundiced eye, for much of it is nonsense at best, too much that is critical and almost all that is sycophantic.

Your bibliographic information is far from up-to-date. The book printed as WHITWASH: THE REPORT ON THE WARREN REPORT, was first published in a limited edition in August 1965 and was the first on the subject. At the earlier publication it had the title in your No. 2 question. I enclose an order form for my printed work. Of the other printed work, I can recommend only Mrs. Meagher's. It is in almost all aspects superb. The rest is of value only in appraisal of the authors, which you indicate you intend, but I doubt you'll ever be in a position to make a valid judgement, for that would require an enormous amount of time. Garrison is neither easy to understand and evaluate nor possible from the press or personal contact, for he and his case are both complex, neither being well understood, by either supporters or enemies. And who do you mean by "critics"?

You are opening a can of worms. It would be good to know what a worm is, what it looks like, what it does.

Good luck!
Harold Weisberg